Standardization of cleaning of Railway Stations and Trains

707. SHRIVIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently standardized the system of cleaning of railway stations and trains;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have received any feedback from any NGO or public in general about the efficacy of the operation implemented by the Railways; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) With a view to improve the standard of cleanliness, Railways have been providing washable aprons (Ballast less track) on platform lines at railway stations with jet cleaning arrangements. A system for mechanized enroute cleaning of trains called 'Clean Train Station System' at identified intermediate stations has been developed. So far it has been made operational at five stations and is likely to be implemented at several other station.

(c) and (d) The efforts made by Railways in this direction have been generally appreciated by the travelling public.

Speed of Trains

708. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are seriously considering to increase the speed of trains upto 150 km. per hour between Delhi and Agra; and

(b) if so, the details thereof including steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government, so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The speed of regular Bhopal Shatabdi Train has been increased to 150 kmph between Delhi-Agra section w.e.f. 16.2.06.